Robert L. Stepans
Ryan R. Shaffer
James C. Murnion
Victoria K.M. Gannon
Meyer, Shaffer & Stepans, PLLP
430 Ryman Street
Missoula, MT 59802
Tel: (406) 543-6929
Fax: (406) 721-1799
rob@mss-lawfirm.com
ryan@mss-lawfirm.com
james@mss-lawfirm.com
katy@mss-lawfirm.com

Matthew L. Merrill (appearing *pro hac vice*) Merrill Law, LLC 1401 Delgany Street, #404 Denver, CO 80202 Tel: (303) 947-4453 matthew@merrillwaterlaw.com

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA BILLINGS DIVISION

TRACY CAEKAERT, and CAMILLIA	
MAPLEY,	Case No. CV-20-52-BLG-SPW
Plaintiffs, vs.) PLAINTIFFS' BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF THEIR MOTION TO ENFORCE
WATCHTOWER BIBLE AND TRACT	COURT ORDER (ECF NO. 411)
SOCIETY OF NEW YORK, INC., and)
WATCH TOWER BIBLE AND TRACT)
SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA.,	
Defendants,)))
///	
///	
///	

DEFENDANTS WANT CERTAIN COURT ORDERS ENFORCED BUT NOT OTHERS

On June 10, 2024, this Court ordered WTNY to "pay all Plaintiffs' expenses related to WTNY's Motion for Protective Order and Plaintiffs' Motion to strike and preparing the instant motion". Order at 13, ECF No. 411. Defendants have taken the position that this Court Order is unenforceable. At the same time, Defendants told Plaintiffs' counsel that the Court's prior Order requiring Plaintiffs to pay the fees of its expert, Dr. Bütz, should be enforced. ¹ *See* Order at 17, ECF No. 293. Defendants have thus taken the unworkable position that the Court's prior orders benefiting them should be enforced while the Court's prior orders benefiting Plaintiffs should not be enforced.

THE COURT'S PRIOR ORDER SANCTIONING THE DEFENDANTS IS NOT MOOT

The Court granted Plaintiffs' Motion for Sanctions re: Deposition of Gary Breaux and Allen Shuster. *See* Order at 13, ECF No. 411. Thus, the Court's recent order denying all pending motions does not apply to Plaintiffs' Motion for Sanctions because that motion is not pending; it has already been granted, just like Defendants' motion asking that Plaintiffs pay for Dr. Bütz's fees. To be sure, the Court sanctioned the Defendants for conduct that occurred over a year ago. That

¹ In their response, Defendants did not contest the amount of fees and costs set forth in Plaintiffs' Statement, and there is accordingly no basis to award anything but the full amounts.

issue has been decided and the only question remaining is the amount. At no time

during the settlement negotiations were the parties' obligations under already

decided motions negotiated. If WTNY wanted to avoid paying these sanctions, it

could have negotiated for the same; it chose not to. There is accordingly no basis

to immunize WTNY from the monetary repercussions of its bad faith litigation

conduct.

Plaintiffs have notified the Defendants that they intend to pay Dr. Bütz's

reimbursable expenses pursuant to this Court's prior order. It is unclear why

Defendants will not uphold their own obligations under this Court's prior order.

As such, Plaintiffs must unfortunately once again come to the Court because

Defendants refuse to be reasonable or fair but instead seek to gain advantages in

this case not based on the rules, reason, or fairness, but their own economic

interests. Plaintiffs therefore respectfully request the Court "issue a second order,

specifying the amount of sanctions award and setting the time of payment" as

planned. Order at 13, ECF No 411.

DATED this 24th day of July, 2024.

By: /s/ Ryan Shaffer

Ryan R. Shaffer

MEYER, SHAFFER & STEPANS PLLP

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Plaintiffs' Brief in Support of Their Motion to Enforce Court Order (ECF No. 411)

Caekaert and Mapley v. Watchtower Bible Tract of New York, Inc., et. al.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Pursuant to Local Rule 7.3(d)(2), Plaintiff hereby certifies that this brief complies with the length requirement for briefs, and that this brief contains 413 words, excluding the caption, certificates of service, and compliance, table of contents, and authorities, and exhibit index.

By: <u>/s/ Ryan Shaffer</u>
Ryan R. Shaffer
MEYER, SHAFFER & STEPANS PLLP

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to Local Rule 1.4, this document has been served on all parties via electronic service through the Court's Case Management/Electronic Case Filing (CM/ECF) system.

By: <u>/s/ Ryan Shaffer</u>
Ryan R. Shaffer
MEYER, SHAFFER & STEPANS PLLP

Attorneys for Plaintiffs